

## Town of Chatham

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 17, 2020

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## CHATHAM ACTIVATES EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Chatham activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as of 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2020 on a limited daytime-only basis to coordinate the Town's response to the COVID-19 health emergency.

The EOC will be staffed from 8 AM to 4 PM Monday to Friday and can be reached at **508-945-5191 or via email at <u>chathameoc@chatham-ma.gov</u>** to answer citizen's questions and addresses their concerns specific to Chatham's response to the virus and mitigation efforts. Calls for emergency assistance should continue to be directed to 911, or Chatham Police or Fire.

There is a substantial amount of information available on COVID-19 at the local, regional, State, and Federal level available online. We urge residents and visitors to visit the following sites for accurate, updated information:

- 1. <a href="https://www.chatham-ma.gov/home/pages/covid-19-coronavirus-information">https://www.chatham-ma.gov/home/pages/covid-19-coronavirus-information</a>
- 2. <a href="https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19">https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19</a>
- 3. https://www.cdc.gov/

A further source of information is the State's 2-1-1 system (dial 211, #Call2Talk, or <a href="www.mass211.org">www.mass211.org</a>) a free, confidential, multi-lingual source for information and referral to local resources.

Any person who is experiencing symptoms such as a fever, and cough or difficulty breathing is encouraged to self-isolate and call your healthcare provider for medical advice.

All persons are urged to maintain social distancing (6 feet from other persons) whenever possible and to wash hands, utilize alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and practice proper respiratory etiquette. High risk individuals, including older adults, those with underlying medical conditions (heart or lung disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, weakened immune system, anyone who is pregnant), are urged to avoid large gatherings.

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